

## § 156.215

72-hour periods prior to commencing lightering operations.

[CGD 78-180, 49 FR 11172, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended by CGD 88-052, 53 FR 25122, July 1, 1988; CGD 90-052, 58 FR 48436, Sept. 15, 1993; CGD 93-081, 60 FR 45017, Aug. 29, 1995; USCG-2002-12471, 67 FR 41333, June 18, 2002; USCG-2006-24371, 74 FR 11212, Mar. 16, 2009; USCG-2010-0351, 75 FR 36285, June 25, 2010]

### § 156.215 Pre-arrival notices.

(a) The master, owner or agent of each vessel to be lightered must give at least 24 hours advance notice to the Captain of the Port nearest the lightering location or zone, prior to arrival in the lightering location or zone. This advance notice must include:

(1) The vessel's name, call sign or official number, and registry;

(2) The cargo type (if oil) or shipping name (if hazardous material) and approximate amount on board;

(3) The number of transfers expected and the amount of cargo expected to be transferred during each transfer;

(4) The lightering location or zone to be used;

(5) The estimated time of arrival in the lightering location or zone;

(6) The estimated duration of transfer operations; and

(7) The name and destination of service vessel(s).

(b) In the event the estimated time of arrival in the lightering location or zone changes by more than six hours, the Master, owner or agent of each vessel to be lightered must advise the Captain of the Port of this change as soon as possible.

(c) Where lightering is conducted as a result of collision, grounding, tank rupture or any similar emergency, immediate notice must be given to the Captain of the Port.

(d) In addition to the other requirements in this section, the master, owner, or agent of a vessel that requires a Tank Vessel Examination (TVE) or other special Coast Guard inspection in order to lighter in a designated lightering zone must request the TVE or other inspection from the cognizant Captain of the Port at least

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72 hours prior to commencement of lightering operations.

[CGD 78-180, 49 FR 11172, Mar. 26, 1984, as amended by CGD 90-052, 58 FR 48437, Sept. 15, 1993; CGD 93-081, 60 FR 45017, Aug. 29, 1995]

### § 156.220 Reporting of incidents.

(a) An immediate report must be made to the nearest Captain of the Port, by the service vessel, if fire, explosion, collision, grounding or any similar emergency, which poses a threat to the vessels involved, occurs during lightering.

(b) Any discharge of oil or hazardous material into the water shall be reported, by the service vessel, in accordance with the procedures specified in § 151.15 of this chapter.

### § 156.225 Designation of lightering zones.

The District Commander is delegated the authority to designate lightering zones and their operating requirements, where they are necessary for safety or environmental protection. When a lightering zone has been designated, lightering operations in a given geographic area may only be conducted within the designated lightering zone.

### § 156.230 Factors considered in designating lightering zones.

The following factors are considered in designating a lightering zone:

(a) The findings of the environmental analysis or, if prepared, the Environmental Impact Statement;

(b) The proximity of the zone to:

(1) Shipping lanes;

(2) Vessel traffic schemes or vessel separation systems;

(3) Anchorages;

(4) Fixed structures;

(5) Designated marine sanctuaries;

(6) Commercial and recreational fishing areas;

(7) Environmentally sensitive areas; and

(8) Designated units of the National Park System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Wilderness Preservation System, properties included on the National Register of Historic Places and National Registry of Natural Landmarks, and National Wildlife Refuge System.

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(c) The traditional use of areas for lightering operations;

(d) The normal weather and sea conditions in the areas, and their effect on lightering operations, and the fate of possible cargo discharges;

(e) The depth of water and underwater obstructions that may adversely impact anchorages and clearance of vessels;

(f) Other relevant safety, environmental, or economic data.

### Subpart C—Lightering Zones and Operational Requirements for the Gulf of Mexico

SOURCE: CGD 93-081, 60 FR 45017, Aug. 29, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 156.300 Designated lightering zones.

The following lightering zones are designated in the Gulf of Mexico and are more than 60 miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured:

(a) *Southtex—lightering zone*. This lightering zone and the geographic area for this zone are coterminous and consist of the waters bounded by a line connecting the following points beginning at:

Latitude N.	Longitude W.
27°40'00",	93°00'00", thence to
27°40'00",	94°35'00", thence to
28°06'30",	94°35'00", thence to
27°21'00",	96°00'00", thence to
26°30'00",	96°00'00", thence to
26°30'00",	93°00'00", and thence to the point of beginning.

(NAD 83)

(b) *Gulfmex No. 2—lightering zone*. This lightering zone and the geographic area for this zone are coterminous and consist of the waters bounded by a line connecting the following points beginning at:

Latitude N.	Longitude W.
27°53'00",	89°00'00", thence to
27°53'00",	91°30'00", thence to
26°30'00",	91°30'00", thence to
26°30'00",	89°00'00", and thence to the point of beginning.

(NAD 83)

(c) *Offshore Pascagoula No. 2—lightering zone*. This lightering zone and the geographic area for this zone are

coterminous and consist of the waters bounded by a line connecting the following points beginning at:

Latitude N.	Longitude W.
29°20'00",	87°00'00", thence to
29°12'00",	87°45'00", thence to
28°39'00",	88°00'00", thence to
28°00'00",	88°00'00", thence to
28°00'00",	87°00'00", and thence to the point of beginning.

(NAD 83)

(d) *South Sabine Point—lightering zone*. This lightering zone and the geographic area for this zone are coterminous and consist of the waters bounded by a line connecting the following points beginning at:

Latitude N.	Longitude W.
28°30'00",	92°38'00", thence to
28°44'00",	93°24'00", thence to
28°33'00",	94°00'00", thence to
28°18'00",	94°00'00", thence to
28°18'00",	92°38'00", and thence to the point of beginning.

(NAD 83)

#### § 156.310 Prohibited areas.

Lightering operations are prohibited within the following areas in the Gulf of Mexico:

(a) *Claypile—prohibited area*. This prohibited area consists of the waters bounded by a line connecting the following points beginning at:

Latitude N.	Longitude W.
28°15'00",	94°35'00", thence to
27°40'00",	94°35'00", thence to
27°40'00",	94°00'00", thence to
28°33'00",	94°00'00", and thence to the point of beginning.

(NAD 83)

(b) *Flower Garden—prohibited area*. This prohibited area consists of the waters bounded by a line connecting the following points beginning at:

Latitude N.	Longitude W.
27°40'00",	94°00'00", thence to
28°18'00",	94°00'00", thence to
28°18'00",	92°38'00", thence to
28°30'00",	92°38'00", thence to
28°15'00",	91°30'00", thence to
27°40'00",	91°30'00", and thence to the point of beginning.

(NAD 83)